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BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
333 Commerce Street
Suite 2101
Nashville, TN 37201-3300

January 23, 2004

Guy M. Hicks
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VIA HAND DELIVERY

Hon. Deborah Taylor Tate, Chairman
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37238

Re: Petition for Arbitration of ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc. with
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Pursuant to the
Telecommunications Act of 1996
Docket No. 03-00119

Dear Chairman Tate:

Enclosed are the original and fourteen copies of a *Joint Motion for Extension of Time to File Final Best Offers*. Mr. Henry Walker, counsel for DeltaCom, has given me permission to sign the *Motion* on his behalf. Copies of the enclosed are being provided to counsel for DeltaCom.

Very truly yours,

Guy M. Hicks

GMH:ch

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
Nashville, Tennessee

In Re: *Arbitration of ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc. with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996*

Docket No. 03-00119

JOINT MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE FINAL BEST OFFERS

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc. ("DeltaCom") respectfully request an extension of time from January 26 to February 13, 2004, in which to file their final best offers in this proceeding.

During the Arbitrators' deliberations on January 12, 2004, the parties were ordered to submit final best offers with respect to Issues 2, 26, 46, 47, and 62. The parties have been working diligently on their respective final best offers, but need additional time to complete them. On January 20, 2004, BellSouth submitted a written request to the Arbitrators for an extension of time until February 13 to provide information involving what will be required to provide BLV/BLVI for DeltaCom and the cost associated with developing such services. If this Joint Motion is granted, all the final best offer information can be submitted simultaneously with the BLV/BLVI information on February 13.

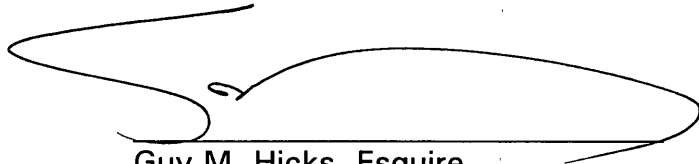
The parties also are attempting to determine if further negotiations would be fruitful to resolve certain issues that are the subject of the final best offers. At

this time, the parties cannot report any settlement. However, the parties believe that with additional time the parties are more likely to be able to resolve issues by agreement.

WHEREFORE, BellSouth and DeltaCom request that they be allowed to submit final best offers on February 13, 2004.

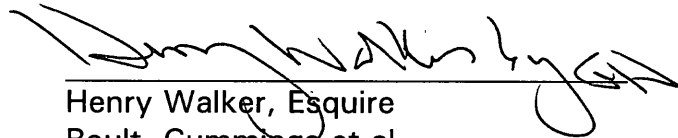
Respectfully submitted,

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on January 23, 2004, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the parties of record, via the method indicated:

- ☐ Hand
- ☐ Mail
- ☐ Facsimile
- ☐ Overnight
- ☒ Electronic

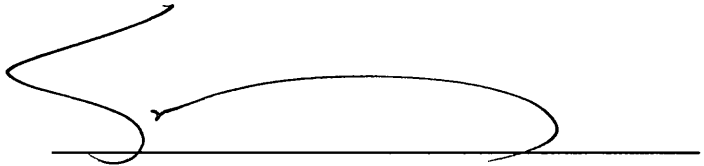
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A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' or 'C' shape, is written over a horizontal line.